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Rewald can leave Isles to visit family, Belli

By Ken Kobayashi
Advertiser Courts Writer

A "grateful" Ronald R. Rewald, who was released from jail only 10 days ago, showed up in Circuit Court in a business suit yesterday and obtained permission for a three-week visit to his family and a renowned attorney on the Mainland.

"I'm grateful to have a chance to see my family," said Rewald, who spent about a half-year in custody until his release on a \$140,000 bond on Jan. 30.

Rewald said he didn't know how much his trip would cost but that he hoped to earn the money with a possible job he declined to disclose.

Circuit Judge Robert W. B. Chang ap-

proved the Mainland trip, which will begin within two weeks. Rewald asked to visit his family in Milwaukee and attorney Melvin Belli in San Francisco. Rewald and Belli are expected to join forces in a suit seeking compensation from the Central Intelligence Agency.

Chang indicated he believes the \$140,000 is enough to ensure that Rewald returns for his trial later this year on theft charges.

Chang overruled objections by Deputy Prosecutor Peter Carlisle, who likened Rewald to a "medicine man" with a "bottle of snake oil and his bag of tricks" who "bilks" Hawaii residents of millions of dollars and now wants to leave before being "tarred and feathered."

Carlisle said he will have less control

over Rewald should he be "spirited away by some mysterious, secretive arm of the United States, which he is not above claiming." The remark was a reference to Rewald's claims that he was somehow involved with the CIA.

Rewald's attorney Samuel King Jr. said Rewald only wanted to visit his family, whom he had not seen since last July.

Rewald's firm of Bishop, Baldwin, Rewald, Dillingham and Wong went into bankruptcy last year, leaving hundreds of investors wondering what happened to an estimated \$17 million in funds.

Rewald is charged with two counts of theft for allegedly stealing from two investors.